

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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**P2**, as Parent and Natural  
Guardian of **S2**, an infant,

Plaintiff,

**COMPLAINT**  
**CV NO.:**

vs.

**HILTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**,  
**KIRK ASHTON**, as Principal of  
Northwood Elementary School, and  
**DAVID DIMBLEBY**, as former Superintendent  
of **HILTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**.,  
in their individual and official capacities,

Defendants.

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Plaintiff, P2, as Parent and Natural Guardian of S2, by his attorneys,  
Jeffrey Wicks, PLLC, for his Complaint against Defendants, alleges as follows:

**PARTIES**

1. Plaintiff P2 is and was at all times relevant to this Complaint, a resident of the Town of Greece, County of Monroe, State of New York, and is the parent and natural guardian of S2, who is now seventeen (17) years of age.

2. This Complaint is being filed with this court under the pseudonyms P2 and S2, pursuant to New York Civil Rights Law § 50-b, as S2 is victim of sexual abuse and P2 is S2's parent and natural guardian, and . identifying P2 by name will necessarily reveal S2's true identity. Hence, the Plaintiff will be referred to as P2 and P2's infant child will be referred to as S2.

3. S2 is an infant, under the age of 18, and at all times relevant to

this complaint, resided in the Town of Greece, County of Monroe, State of New York, and was and is a student at one of the schools of Defendant, HILTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT (hereinafter "HCSD")

4. Upon information and belief, at all times herein alleged, S2 was a student at the Northwood Elementary School ("the School"), located at 433 North Greece Road, Hilton, New York,

5. HCSD was and is a school district duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York, with offices located at 225 West Avenue, Hilton, New York, 14468.

6. Upon information and belief, Defendant HCSD, at all times relevant to this complaint, employed Defendants KIRK ASHTON ("ASHTON") and DR. CASEY DIMBLEBY ("DIMBLEBY").

7. Upon information and belief, individual Defendant ASHTON, was at all times relevant to this complaint, employed as the Principal of the School, from 2004 until on or about April 8, 2021, when he was placed on administrative leave, and as such, he was acting in his official capacity and, in his actions described herein, was acting under color of law and under color of his authority as an employee of Defendant HCSD; he is being sued in his individual and official capacities. Upon further information and belief, he presently is located at the Niagara County Jail in Lockport, New York as an inmate.

8. Upon information and belief, individual Defendant DIMBLEBY was at all times relevant to this complaint, and from July 1, 2005 to December 31, 2015, employed as the Superintendent of the HCSD, and as such, he was

acting in his official capacity and, in his actions described herein, was acting under color of law and under color of his authority as an employee of Defendant HCSD; he is being sued in his individual and official capacities.

9. Defendant, DAVID DIMBLEBY (“DIMBLEBY”), was the Superintendent of defendant, Hilton Central School District, from July 1, 2005 to December 31, 2015.

10. From July 1, 2005 to December 31, 2015, Defendant, DIMBLEBY, was an employee of HCSD.

11. Defendant HCSD was charged with the supervision of Defendant, ASHTON, the principal of Northwood Elementary School, and DIMBLEBY , as Superintendent of HCSD.

#### **JURISDICTIONAL STATEMENT**

12. This action is brought forth pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §§1983 and 1988 and the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution as a result of Defendants’ violation of the constitutional civil rights of Plaintiff’s minor child. Jurisdiction is founded upon 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1343 and the aforementioned statutory and constitutional provisions.

13. Plaintiff further invokes the supplemental jurisdiction of this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1367(a) to hear and decide claims arising under state law.

14. This Complaint also is brought pursuant to the New York Child Victims Act, and hence, a Notice of Claim is not required.

15. All causes of action herein have been commenced within the

limitation period as set forth in N.Y. C.P.L.R. §§ 208, 214 and 214-g.

**FACTS**

16. While in the role of Superintendent, Defendant DIMBLEBY was under the direct supervision, employ, and/or control of Defendant HCSD.

17. Defendant ASHTON was under the direct supervision, employ, and/or control of Defendant HCSD and Defendant DIMBLEBY.

18. From the time that S2 was in 1<sup>st</sup> grade, in the Fall of 2009, and continuing throughout S2's 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades, until late Spring of 2015, S2 was sexually abused by ASHTON.

19. At all times relevant to this complaint, ASHTON engaged in a ongoing pattern of sexually abusing young boys who were students at the School. The sexual assaults would occur on a nearly daily basis inside the School.

20. At all times relevant to this complaint, upon information and belief, teachers, students, and staff at the School, knew that Defendant, ASHTON, would take male students to his office and remain in the office with the male students alone with the door shut.

21. At all times relevant to this complaint, upon information and belief, Defendants HCSD and DIMBLEBY, knew, or should have known, that defendant, ASHTON, would take male students to his office and remain in the office with the male students alone with the door shut.

22. ASHTON, for a period of almost six (6) years, subjected S2 to a pattern of sexual abuse, as set forth below.

**A. 1st GRADE**

23. Beginning in or around 2009, S2 was called several times to the front of the class by his then-1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher, Erin Cavallaro, who instructed him to go to the Principal's (ASHTON's) office, where he was to eat lunch and do homework. This happened during S2's 1<sup>st</sup> grade school year, which was 2009-2010.

24. On occasion, S2, upon visiting his Counselor, Elizabeth Thornton ("Thornton"), in her office in this grade, would be sent down to ASHTON'S office by the Counselor.

25. On each occasion that S2 went to ASHTON's office during 1st grade, ASHTON would direct S2 to sit on ASHTON's lap. On occasion, S2 would eat his lunch while sitting on ASHTON's lap.

26. During each of these occasions, the door to ASHTON's office would be closed. Although there was a window on the door to ASHTON's office, pictures covered the window so that no one either could see into ASHTON's office or outside of ASHTON's office.

27. During each of these occasions, ASHTON would touch S2's shoulders, as well as rubbing and caressing S2's back, buttocks, knees and thighs.

28. This course of conduct, i.e., the teacher calling S2 to the front of the class, and/or the Counselor having S2 in his office, and S2 being told to go down to ASHTON's office where he was to work and have lunch, and being subjected to unwanted physical and sexual contact by ASHTON, would happen

at least three (3) times per week during the 2009-2010 1<sup>st</sup> grade school year.

**B. 2<sup>nd</sup> GRADE**

29. Similarly, during 2010-2011, which was S2's 2<sup>nd</sup> grade year, S2 was called several times to the front of the class by his then-2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher, Sheri Carter, who instructed him to go to the Principal's (ASHTON's) office, where he was to eat lunch and work.

30. Beginning in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, S2 had an Individualized Education Program ("IEP") due to his diagnosis of Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder ("ADHD").

31. As a result of S2's IEP and ADHD, S2 was more vulnerable to exploitation by ASHTON because of his need for extra care and help.

32. Upon information and belief, S2's IEP and ADHD was known to the teacher in this grade, who should have taken more care to protect S2 from ASHTON instead of sending S2 down to ASHTON's office.

33. Instead, the teacher would tell S2 that she knew that S2 was struggling, and that ASHTON could help, thereby exploiting his IEP and ADHD.

34. Upon information and belief, S2's IEP and ADHD was known to ASHTON, and, as a result, made S2 more vulnerable to abuse by ASHTON.

35. On occasion, S2, upon visiting his Counselor, Thornton, in her office in this grade, would be sent down to ASHTON'S office by the Counselor.

36. On each occasion that S2 went to ASHTON's office during 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, ASHTON would direct S2 to sit on ASHTON's lap. On occasion, S2 would eat his lunch while sitting on ASHTON's lap.

37. During each of these occasions, the door to ASHTON's office would be closed. Although there was a window on the door to ASHTON's office, pictures covered the window so that no one either could see into ASHTON's office or outside of ASHTON's office.

38. During each of these occasions, ASHTON would touch S2's shoulders, as well as rubbing and caressing S2's back, buttocks, knees and thighs.

39. This course of conduct, i.e., the teacher calling S2 to the front of the class, and/or the Counselor having S2 in his office, and S2 being told to go down to ASHTON's office where he was to work and have lunch, and being subjected to unwanted physical and sexual contact by ASHTON, would happen at least three (3) times per week during the 2010-2011 2<sup>nd</sup> grade school year.

**C. 3<sup>rd</sup> GRADE**

40. Similarly, during 2011-2012, which was S2's 4<sup>th</sup> grade year, S2 was called several times to the front of the class by his then-3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher, Mrs. Mee, who instructed him to go to the Principal's (ASHTON's) office, where he was to eat lunch and work.

41. As set forth above, S2 had an Individualized Education Program ("IEP") due to his diagnosis of Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder ("ADHD").

42. As a result of S2's IEP and ADHD, S2 was more vulnerable to exploitation by ASHTON because of his need for extra care and help.

43. Upon information and belief, S2's IEP and ADHD was known to the teacher in this grade, who should have taken more care to protect S2 from

ASHTON instead of sending S2 down to ASHTON's office.

44. Instead, the teacher would tell S2 that she knew that S2 was struggling, and that ASHTON could help, thereby exploiting his IEP and ADHD.

45. Upon information and belief, S2's IEP and ADHD was known to ASHTON, and, as a result, made S2 more vulnerable to abuse by ASHTON.

46. On occasion, S2, upon visiting his Counselor, Thornton, or when Thornton went out on maternity leave, Kristen Pignagrande, in her office in this grade, would be sent down to ASHTON'S office by the Counselor.

47. On each occasion that S2 went to ASHTON's office during 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, ASHTON would direct S2 to sit on ASHTON's lap. On occasion, S2 would eat his lunch while sitting on ASHTON's lap.

48. During each of these occasions, the door to ASHTON's office would be closed. Although there was a window on the door to ASHTON's office, pictures covered the window so that no one either could see into ASHTON's office or outside of ASHTON's office.

49. During each of these occasions, ASHTON would touch S2's shoulders, as well as rubbing and caressing S2's back, buttocks, knees and thighs.

50. This course of conduct, i.e., the teacher calling S2 to the front of the class, and/or the Counselor having S2 in his office, and S2 being told to go down to ASHTON's office where he was to work and have lunch, and being subjected to unwanted physical and sexual contact by ASHTON, would happen at least three (3) times during the 2011-2012 3<sup>rd</sup> grade school year.

**D. 4<sup>th</sup> GRADE**

51. Similarly, during 2012-2013, which was S2's 4<sup>th</sup> grade year, S2 was called several times to the front of the class by his then-4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, Kristen Pignagrande, who instructed him to go to the Principal's (ASHTON's) office, where he was to eat lunch and work.

52. As set forth above, S2 had an Individualized Education Program ("IEP") due to his diagnosis of Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder ("ADHD").

53. As a result of S2's IEP and ADHD, S2 was more vulnerable to exploitation by ASHTON because of his need for extra care and help.

54. Upon information and belief, S2's IEP and ADHD was known to the teacher in this grade, who should have taken more care to protect S2 from ASHTON instead of sending S2 down to ASHTON's office.

55. Instead, the teacher would tell S2 that she knew that S2 was struggling, and that ASHTON could help, thereby exploiting his IEP and ADHD.

56. Upon information and belief, S2's IEP and ADHD was known to ASHTON, and, as a result, made S2 more vulnerable to abuse by ASHTON.

57. On occasion, S2, upon visiting his Counselor, Thornton, in her office in this grade, would be sent down to ASHTON'S office by the Counselor.

58. On each occasion that S2 went to ASHTON's office during 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, ASHTON would direct S2 to sit on ASHTON's lap. On occasion, S2 would eat his lunch while sitting on ASHTON's lap.

59. During each of these occasions, the door to ASHTON's office would be closed. Although there was a window on the door to ASHTON's office,

pictures covered the window so that no one either could see into ASHTON's office or outside of ASHTON's office.

60. During each of these occasions, ASHTON would touch S2's shoulders, as well as rubbing and caressing S2's back, buttocks, knees and thighs.

61. This course of conduct, i.e., the teacher calling S2 to the front of the class, and/or the Counselor having S2 in his office, and S2 being told to go down to ASHTON's office where he was to work and have lunch, and being subjected to unwanted physical and sexual contact by ASHTON, increased in number and would happen at least four (4) to five (5) times per week during the 2012-2013 4<sup>th</sup> grade school year.

**E. 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE**

62. Similarly, during 2013-2014, which was S2's 5<sup>th</sup> grade year, S2 was called several times to the front of the class by his then-5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, Ms. Machata, who instructed him to go to the Principal's (ASHTON's) office, where he was to eat lunch and work.

63. As set forth above, S2 had an Individualized Education Program ("IEP") due to his diagnosis of Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder ("ADHD").

64. As a result of S2's IEP and ADHD, S2 was more vulnerable to exploitation by ASHTON because of his need for extra care and help.

65. Upon information and belief, S2's IEP and ADHD was known to the teacher in this grade, who should have taken more care to protect S2 from ASHTON instead of sending S2 down to ASHTON's office.

66. Instead, the teacher would tell S2 that she knew that S2 was struggling, and that ASHTON could help, thereby exploiting his IEP and ADHD.

67. Upon information and belief, S2's IEP and ADHD was known to ASHTON, and, as a result, made S2 more vulnerable to abuse by ASHTON.

68. On occasion, S2, upon visiting his Counselor, Thornton, in her office in this grade, would be sent down to ASHTON'S office by the Counselor.

69. On each occasion that S2 went to ASHTON's office during 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, ASHTON would direct S2 to sit on ASHTON's lap. On occasion, S2 would eat his lunch while sitting on ASHTON's lap.

70. During each of these occasions, the door to ASHTON's office would be closed. Although there was a window on the door to ASHTON's office, pictures covered the window so that no one either could see into ASHTON's office or outside of ASHTON's office.

71. During each of these occasions, ASHTON would touch S2's shoulders, as well as rubbing and caressing S2's back, buttocks, knees and thighs.

72. This course of conduct, i.e., the teacher calling S2 to the front of the class, and/or the Counselor having S2 in his office, and S2 being told to go down to ASHTON's office where he was to work and have lunch, and being subjected to unwanted physical and sexual contact by ASHTON, would happen at least four (4) to five (5) times per week during the 2013-2014 5<sup>th</sup> grade school year.

**F. 6<sup>th</sup> GRADE**

73. Similarly, during 2014-2015, which was S2's 6<sup>th</sup> grade year, S2 was called several times to the front of the class by his then-5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, Jennifer Ames, who instructed him to go to the Principal's (ASHTON's) office, where he was to eat lunch and work.

74. As set forth above, S2 had an Individualized Education Program ("IEP") due to his diagnosis of Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder ("ADHD").

75. As a result of S2's IEP and ADHD, S2 was more vulnerable to exploitation by ASHTON because of his need for extra care and help.

76. Upon information and belief, S2's IEP and ADHD was known to the teacher in this grade, who should have taken more care to protect S2 from ASHTON instead of sending S2 down to ASHTON's office.

77. Instead, the teacher would tell S2 that she knew that S2 was struggling, and that ASHTON could help, thereby exploiting his IEP and ADHD.

78. Upon information and belief, S2's IEP and ADHD was known to ASHTON, and, as a result, made S2 more vulnerable to abuse by ASHTON.

79. On occasion, S2, upon visiting his Counselor, Thornton, in her office in this grade, would be sent down to ASHTON'S office by the Counselor.

80. On each occasion that S2 went to ASHTON's office during 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, ASHTON would direct S2 to sit on ASHTON's lap. On occasion, S2 would eat his lunch while sitting on ASHTON's lap.

81. During each of these occasions, the door to ASHTON's office would be closed. Although there was a window on the door to ASHTON's office,

pictures covered the window so that no one either could see into ASHTON's office or outside of ASHTON's office.

82. During each of these occasions, ASHTON would touch S2's shoulders, as well as rubbing and caressing S2's back, buttocks, knees and thighs.

83. This course of conduct, i.e., the teacher calling S2 to the front of the class, and/or the Counselor having S2 in his office, and S2 being told to go down to ASHTON's office where he was to work and have lunch, and being subjected to unwanted physical and sexual contact by ASHTON, would happen at least four (4) to five (5) times per week during the 20-2014-2015 6<sup>th</sup> grade school year.

84. The last of these occasions, i.e., the teacher and/or Counselor calling S2 to the front of the class and being told to go down to ASHTON's office where he was to work and have lunch, and being subjected to unwanted physical and sexual contact by ASHTON, took place in or around late Spring of 2015.

85. As set forth above, on or about April 8, 2021, ASHTON was placed on administrative leave.

86. Later, on or about April 14, 2021, ASHTON was arrested and charged in the Greece Town Court with multiple felony counts regarding his sexual abuse of many boys while he was Principal of the School.

87. Subsequently, ASHTON was indicted by a Monroe County Grand Jury on six counts of first-degree sexual abuse and five counts of second-degree course of sexual conduct, both felonies, and nine counts of endangering

the welfare of a child, a misdemeanor.

88.       Later, a new indictment against ASHTON unsealed on June 21, 2021 includes fifteen (15) additional victims. ASHTON now is facing 28 new criminal charges of sexual abuse, course of sexual conduct against a child, and endangering the welfare of a child.

89.       ASHTON has assaulted S2 and subjected him to a course of conduct spanning a period of six (6) years, as set forth above.

90.       The last time that S2 encountered ASHTON was on April 8, 2021, when S2 went back to the School to visit his former teachers. On that occasion, S2 happened to encounter ASHTON, who, instead of shaking S2's hand, unexpectedly gave S2 a hug and rubbed S2's back, an act which was unwelcome to S2.

91.       Defendants HCSD and DIMBLEBY have negligently failed in their duty of training, supervision, hiring and retention with respect to ASHTON for the purpose of preventing the type of conduct engaged in by ASHTON.

**AND AS FOR A FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION  
AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS FOR  
NEGLIGENCE**

92.       Plaintiff repeats and realleges the foregoing paragraphs as if set forth fully herein.

93.       Defendants owed S2, a duty of reasonable care to protect plaintiff from injury.

94.       Defendants knew or should have known of ASHTON's, propensity to sexually abuse children.

95. Defendants breached their duties to S2, by failing to use reasonable care. Defendants' failures include, but are not limited to, failing to properly supervise ASHTON, failing to properly supervise S2, and failing to protect S2 from a known danger posed by ASHTON's sexual abuse of children.

96. As a direct and proximate result of the foregoing, S2 has seen his grades suffer, and has suffered emotional trauma, embarrassment, humiliation, extreme emotional stress, trauma, nervousness, anxiety, humiliation, medical expenses, attorney's fees and mental anguish, and has sustained physical, emotional, and psychological injuries, along with pain and suffering.

97. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff's minor son has been damaged in the sum of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00).

**AS AND FOR A SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION  
AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS FOR  
INTENTIONAL INFILCTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS**

98. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the foregoing paragraphs as if set forth fully herein.

99. Defendant ASHTON, in his capacity as an employee of Defendant HCSD and Principal of the School, exhibited extreme and outrageous conduct towards S2 which was intended to cause or was done with a disregard for the substantial probability of causing severe emotional distress.

100. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's extreme and outrageous conduct all in violation of constitutional and civil rights of S2, S2 has seen his grades suffer, and has suffered emotional trauma, embarrassment, humiliation, extreme emotional stress, trauma, nervousness, anxiety, humiliation,

medical expenses, attorney's fees and mental anguish, and has sustained physical, emotional, and psychological injuries, along with pain and suffering.

101. The foregoing conduct of Defendants was done intentionally, or with gross indifference to S2's rights, and was the proximate cause of S2's resulting emotional distress.

102. By reason of the foregoing, S2 has been damaged in the sum of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00).

**AND AS FOR A THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION  
AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS FOR  
NEGLIGENT INFILCTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS**

103. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the foregoing paragraphs as if set forth fully herein.

104. Defendants owed a duty to S2 to maintain order and discipline within the School so that students may study without fear for their physical safety and emotional well-being and without being submitted to unwanted sexual abuse.

105. Defendants HCSD and DIMBLEBY breached said duty by failing to adequately train Defendant ASHTON regarding appropriate employee behavior and failing to reprimand and control Defendant ASHTON when he engaged in inappropriate behavior that included but was not limited to unwanted sexual abuse and/or sexual molestation of S2

106. The result of this breach of duty was that Defendants HCSD and DIMBLEBY not only caused P2 to fear for his son's well-being with regard to protecting him from underage sexual abuse by an adult but also subjected a young adolescent to unwanted sexual abuse.

107. As a result of Defendants' breach of duty, Plaintiff P2, and S2, sustained injuries, including, but not limited to, continuing emotional trauma and distress.

108. As a direct and proximate result of the foregoing, S2 has seen his grades suffer, and has suffered emotional trauma, embarrassment, humiliation, extreme emotional stress, trauma, nervousness, anxiety, humiliation, medical expenses, attorney's fees and mental anguish, and has sustained physical, emotional, and psychological injuries, along with pain and suffering.

109. By reason of the foregoing, S2 and P2 have been damaged in the sum of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00).

**AND AS FOR A FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION  
AGAINST DEFENDANT ASHTON FOR ASSAULT**

110. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the foregoing paragraphs as if set forth fully herein.

111. Defendant ASHTON intentionally placed S2 in apprehension of imminent harmful or offensive conduct, over a period of time from approximately 2017 to 2021, as set forth above.

112. Defendant ASHTON by his words and conduct, caused S2 to believe that harmful or offensive conduct was about to occur on numerous occasions between 2017 and 2017, as set forth above.

113. Defendant ASHTON through sexual abuse of S2, placed S2 in apprehension of harmful or offensive conduct.

114. Defendant ASHTON's conduct was intentional and/or knowing that there was substantial certainty that harm would occur to S2

115. As a direct and proximate result of the foregoing, S2 has seen his grades suffer, and has suffered emotional trauma, embarrassment, humiliation, extreme emotional stress, trauma, nervousness, anxiety, humiliation, medical expenses, attorney's fees and mental anguish, and has sustained physical, emotional, and psychological injuries, along with pain and suffering.

116. By reason of the foregoing, S2 has been damaged in the sum of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00).

**AND AS FOR A FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION  
AGAINST DEFENDANT ASHTON FOR BATTERY**

117. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the foregoing paragraphs as if set forth fully herein.

118. Defendant ASHTON intentionally touched S2 without his consent and while he was incapable of consent, over a period of time between 2017 and 2021, as set forth above.

119. Defendant Ashton submitted S2 to battery by impermissibly subjecting him to a pattern of sexual abuse between 2017 and 2021, as set forth above.

120. Defendant ASHTON's conduct was intentional and/or undertaken knowing that there was substantial certainty that harm would occur to S2

121. As a direct and proximate result of the foregoing, S2 has seen his grades suffer, and has suffered emotional trauma, embarrassment, humiliation, extreme emotional stress, trauma, nervousness, anxiety, humiliation, medical expenses, attorney's fees and mental anguish, and has sustained

physical, emotional, and psychological injuries, along with pain and suffering.

122. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff's minor son has been damaged in the sum of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00).

**AND AS FOR A SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION  
AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS FOR  
NEGLIGENCE FAILURE OF TRAINING, SUPERVISION, HIRING AND  
RETENTION**

123. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the foregoing paragraphs as if set forth fully herein.

124. Defendants HCSD and DIMBLEBY failed to adequately train and supervise its employees, including Defendant ASHTON, with regard to appropriate staff-student relations.

125. Plaintiffs assert that Defendant HCSD knew, or should have known, of the inappropriate tendencies and inadequacies of Defendant ASHTON, with regard to unwanted sexual abuse and/or sexual molestation of young boys by conducting a proper investigation into ASHTON before they hired him.

126. Prior to being hired by HCSD, Defendant ASHTON was an employee of the Rush-Henrietta Central School District.

127. Prior to hiring Defendant ASHTON, Defendant HCSD, knew or should have known through the exercise of due care, that Defendant ASHTON had a propensity to sexually abuse children.

128. Additionally, had HCSD properly done its due diligence, it would have learned that Ashton has had convictions for Driving While Intoxicated ("DWI"): a misdemeanor in 1998, before he was hired by HCSD, and then a

felony DWI in 2007, after he became Principal of the School.

129. Defendants HCSD and DIMBLEBY failed to adequately supervise Defendant ASHTON during his employment and negligently placed Defendant ASHTON in such a sensitive position of employment, without adequate or proper training, supervision or control.

130. Defendant HCSD tolerated and permitted a pattern of illegal and unconstitutional and unwanted sexual abuse and/or sexual molestation of young boys and violations of the civil rights of students, and have failed to maintain a proper system for reviewing such conduct by their employees, with the result that Defendant ASHTON was encouraged to believe that he could violate the rights of persons such as S2 with impunity.

131. The aforementioned acts of Defendant ASHTON, an employee of Defendant HCSD, directly and proximately resulted from the failure of the Defendant HCSD and DIMBLEBY and to properly train, hire, retain and supervise its personnel.

132. The aforementioned acts of Defendant ASHTON, an employee of Defendant HCSD and under the supervision of DIMBLEBY, directly and proximately resulted from the failure of the Defendant DIMBLEBY and to properly train, retain and supervise his personnel.

133. Such failure to adequately train, hire supervise and retain its employees was the cause of the Defendant ASHTON wrongfully engaging in an inappropriate relationship with S2, thereby causing the injuries and damages that are the subject of this Complaint.

134. As a result of such negligent failure to train, hire supervise and retain, and as a direct and proximate result of the foregoing, S2 has seen his grades suffer, and has suffered emotional trauma, embarrassment, humiliation, extreme emotional stress, trauma, nervousness, anxiety, humiliation, medical expenses, attorney's fees and mental anguish, and has sustained physical, emotional, and psychological injuries, along with pain and suffering.

135. By reason of the foregoing, S2 has been damaged in the sum of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00).

**AND AS FOR A SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION  
AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS UNDER  
42 U.S.C. §1983 FOR VIOLATIONS OF CIVIL RIGHTS**

136. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the foregoing paragraphs as if set forth fully herein.

137. The specified acts, including but not limited to the negligence, assault, battery, negligent and intentional infliction of emotional distress, and negligent failure to train, hire supervise and retain, and violation under color of law are each exclusively and without regard to the other a separate and distinct violation of S2's rights as enumerated above.

138. S2 has a substantive Due Process right under the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution to be free from intentional invasion of bodily security and personal privacy.

139. There was an intentional invasion of bodily security and personal privacy by Defendant ASHTON.

140. There was, on the part of all Defendants, gross negligence

and/or deliberate indifference to the intentional invasion of bodily security and personal privacy of S2, in further violation of S2's substantive Due Process rights under the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the Constitution.

141. This custom or policy of Defendants HCSD and DIMBLEBY, as set forth above, caused S2 to be subjected to a denial of his constitutional rights in direct violation of the provisions of 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

142. S2's civil rights, as guaranteed under the Constitution, statutes, common law, and case law of the United States and of New York State were willfully violated by all the above misconduct.

143. Acting under the color of law, Defendants deprived S2 of his rights, privileges and/or immunities pursuant to the Fourteenth Amendment to The United States Constitution, 41 U.S.C. Section 1983, as well as Article I, Sections 6 and 11 of the New York Constitution by denying his constitutional rights to equal protection under the laws of the United States.

144. As a direct and proximate result of all Defendants' willful, extreme and outrageous misconduct, all in violation of S2's constitutional and civil rights, S2 has seen his grades suffer, and has suffered emotional trauma, embarrassment, humiliation, extreme emotional stress, trauma, nervousness, anxiety, humiliation, medical expenses, attorney's fees and mental anguish, and has sustained physical, emotional, and psychological injuries, along with pain and suffering.

145. By reason of the foregoing, S2 has been damaged in the sum of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00).

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff P2, as parent and natural guardian of S2, demands judgment against the Defendants as follows:

- A. On the First Cause of Action, in favor of Plaintiffs in the amount of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00);
- B. On the Second Cause of Action, in favor of Plaintiffs in the amount of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00);
- C. On the Third Cause of Action, in favor of Plaintiffs in the amount of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00);
- D. On the Fourth Cause of Action, in favor of Plaintiffs in the amount of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00);
- E. On the Fourth Cause of Action, in favor of Plaintiffs in the amount of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00);
- F. On the Fifth Cause of Action, in favor of Plaintiffs in the amount of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00);
- G. On the Sixth Cause of Action, in favor of Plaintiffs in the amount of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00);
- H. On the Seventh Cause of Action, in favor of Plaintiffs in the amount of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00);
- I. That punitive damages be awarded to Plaintiffs against Defendants ASHTON and DIMBLEBY in the amount of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00);
- J. That reasonable attorneys' fees be awarded to Plaintiff pursuant to the Civil Rights Attorneys Fees Act of 1976, and 42 U.S.C.

Section 1988;

- K. That Plaintiff be awarded the costs and disbursements of this action; and
- L. For such other and further relief as to this Court may seem just and proper.

**PLEASE NOTE: PLAINTIFF HEREBY DEMANDS TRIAL BY JURY**

Dated: July 26, 2021

s/ Jeffrey Wicks  
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